

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 8-14, and 16-20 were rejected under 35 USC § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 9 was objected to since the word “but” is unclear.

- 5 Claims 1-6, 8-14, and 16-20 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome claim objections and the rejection under 35 USC § 101.

Applicant assumes that Applicant’s second amendment to the claims after the final rejection dated 1/16/07 has been entered. The undersigned and the Examiner discussed
10 the case by telephone on 5/17/07 and a draft of this amendment was emailed and reviewed by the Examiner.

Claims 1, 9, 14, and 19 are being amended to replace “but” with “and” as suggested by the Examiner for claim 9.

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The last phrase of claim 1 is being recited as a “simulator”, while a reporter is being added to recite a concrete, tangible result:

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a simulator that simulates the textual design file using the random delays applied by the delay applicator to simulate logic hazards caused by domain-crossing signals;
a reporter for reporting machine-generated results of the simulator to a user on a display or in a machine-generated report;

Claim 9 is being amended to recite reporting machine-generated simulation results:

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reporting machine-generated simulation results to a user on a display or on a machine-generated report,

Claim 19 is also being amended to recite reporting of machine-generated results on a display or on a machine-generated report:

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report means for reporting machine-generated results from the simulating means to a user on a display or on a machine-generated report,

Reporting machine-generated results to a user is a tangible result. A display or a machine-generated report is also a concrete result.

Basis in the specification for display and reporting is found at:

5 Delays for generating signals using the functions can be included, such as for randomized delays. Functional simulator 98 keeps track of cycle times and writes the states of various signals to **report file** 90, or **displays** signals selected by the designer on a **waveform viewer**. Signal states could also be compared to expected states and mis-matches **reported**. (Spec. Para [0107], second half of para., emphasis added)

10 Thus claims 1-6, 8-14, and 16-20 now claim a useful, concrete, and tangible product, a machine-generated report generated to the user of the simulator. It is well known that such design simulators that report simulation results to users are a multi-million dollar industry and are certainly useful. A machine-generated simulation report is a concrete, tangible result that cannot be generated by a human. Applicant thus requests that the
15 rejection under 35 USC § 101 be withdrawn.

In view of the above, it is submitted that claims 1-6, 8-14, and 16-20, as amended, are in a position for allowance. This application was filed with formal drawings that have not been amended. Applicant believes that a full and complete response to the office action
20 has been made. Allowance of the claims at an early date is solicited.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would expedite prosecution of this application, she is invited to telephone the undersigned at (831) 476-5506.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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